

Jamie Scherer, a senior at Whitmer High School in Toledo, has been named winner of the 27th Annual Congressional Arts Competition for the Ninth District. Congresswoman Kaptur presented Ms. Scherer with her prize in a ceremony on Sunday, February 7.

Ms. Scherer was recognized by a panel of jurors for her artwork, "Metamorphosis," which will be exhibited in the U.S. Capitol for one year. She and her parents also received three round-trip tickets, courtesy of Southwest Airlines, to attend a June 17 awards ceremony in our nation's capital.

Runnersup in the competition were: Tim Williams, also a student at Whitmer, and Kirsten Long, who attends Bowsher High School in Toledo.

"Congratulations to all the participants for their wonderful creations," said Congresswoman Kaptur. "Everyone is a winner in this competition, in my opinion."

Below are some of the photos from the event. More photos to come in the near future.

Other awards or honorable mentions were won by the following students:

Bowsher: Ryan Murray;

Whitmer: Stacy Miles, Cristi Ruff, Seth Ellis, and Alexandra Yambert;

Oberlin: Zofia Stanely;

Ottawa Hills: Meara Thombre; Milan Edison: Corey Vanderbaan;

Notre Dame Academy: Natassa Christides;

Springfield: Chelsea Trombla; St. Ursula: Jessica Marciniak;

Sylvania Northview: Brett Quinn; and,

Toledo School for the Arts: Vanessa Carpenter.

Mr. Murray also won the University of Toledo award, as did Ms. Carpenter. Ms. Ruff, Ms. Miles and Ms. Christides won the Bowling Green State University awards.

Mr. Vanderbaan received the Eastman & Smith award. Mr. Madden received the Commercial Design Award. His artwork will be reproduced into glassware by Libbey, Inc.

Honorable Mentions in the commercial category were received by: Sirena Mason (Bowsher), Zi-Qi Liew (Ottawa Hills), Brooke Marshall (Toledo Waite), and Tim Williams (Whitmer). All participants in the commercial design competition have been invited to a Design Career Workshop hosted by Libbey.

Jurors for this year's competition were: Seder Burns (University of Toledo); Sue Ann Ladd, a retired art educator; Tom Matteson (Lourdes College); Maria Rodriguez-Winter (board member, Arts Commission of Greater Toledo); Barbara Rollins (board member, Firelands Association of the Visual Arts); Sara Schleicher (Bowling Green State University); and, Sandy Shult (graphic artist, Libbey, Inc.).

The students' artwork will be displayed in the lobby of Fifth Third Center at One Seagate through Feb. 21 before traveling to Oberlin College Science Center (March 1-21). A reception for participants will be held on Sunday, March7 at 1:30 p.m. in Oberlin.

The 27th annual competition, which affords young people to opportunity showcase their artistic ability, was sponsored by Congresswoman Kaptur in connection with the Arts Commission of Greater Toledo, the longest standing arts commission in the state of Ohio.